

to put a dent in betting on sporting events. It is going to occur anyway. There are literally millions of dollars wagered each weekend during the football season and a lesser amount, but still probably into the millions statewide, during basketball season. The only thing that this bill would do is to recognize what is occurring right now, require anybody who wants to be what's called a sports pool operator to pay \$500 to obtain a license. The state would receive 2 percent of every bet taken in by the sports pool operators. Some people call them bookies. That's what they are called currently in their illegal status. This bill which legalizes their operations would refer to them as sports pool operators. Now some discussion was had last week on this bill and a comment was made that Governor Kerrey said he would veto this bill. I saw the same article in the paper and made reference to it on the floor and mentioned that he had not talked about vetoing other gambling bills. He and I had a conversation after that and he wondered if he had upset me a great amount by what he had said. And I told him that he had because he singled my bill out and I wondered why he had done it. He told me that the only reason he mentioned that bill is because the reporters asked him about it specifically during his press conference and he also indicated that from some things he read he thought that I was joking when I offered the bill anyway. I assured him that I was not joking, and I am not joking now. I told him that I wish he would keep an open mind, listen to what this bill is about and then reconsider. I also told him that I had sought an Attorney General's Opinion and he should at least hold his mind or his opinion or decision in abeyance until that opinion came. He said that's what he would do. So I am saying that based on my discussion with the Governor I can't say that there is a definitive decision having been made by him to veto this bill. I sent to all of you my analysis of the Attorney General's Opinion and showed that he did not touch, through the court cases he cited, betting on sporting events at all. His cases dealt only with parimutuel horse racing. The reason parimutuel horse racing was considered to be in violation of the Constitution was because it in fact is a lottery or a game of chance. That set of circumstances is created because of the way the winners are selected and the amount they win. All of the bets on a given race go into a pool. The number of winners will determine how much each person will win on that specific horse. The difference between that and betting on a sporting event is that the amount you win is not